

EL MORRO AREA ARTS COUNCIL

VOLUME TWENTY NINE

FIRST QUARTER 2026

Unless otherwise specified all Events are held at the Old School Gallery, mm 46 on Highway 53,
For up-to-the-minute event information visit us at <https://www.facebook.com/EMAAC Information Hotline>



In the Artists' Quarter
SOMETHING EXPERIMENTAL
 An EMAAC Artists' Themed Group Show

Reception Sunday, January 11, 2:00pm

Hear a discussion by the participating artists about their trials and successes creating something that was experimental for them.

Show runs January 10 through March 29

All levels Student Exhibition coming in April

EMAAC Presents:

Open Mic Night

Hosted by Wade Aubuchon
February 7th, 7:00 -9:00pm Tickets \$5
 Calling all story-tellers, comedians, poets, musicians, dancers and actors!

Performers get in free!
 Contact Gail at programming@emaacnm.org to sign up
 --or sign up at the door.
 Refreshments available for your snacking pleasure!



First Quarter EVENTS continued...



International Women's Day

Mad Hatter's Tea Party

Sunday, March 8th, 2:00 pm

Speaker to be announced!

Wear a "mad" hat and join the white rabbit for a fun and inspirational afternoon.

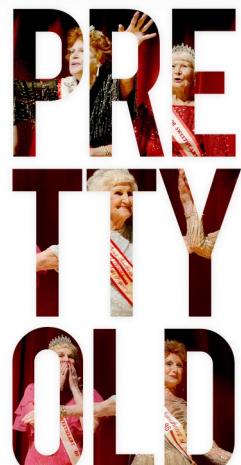
Tea and fabulous refreshments provided!



DUSTY ANVIL CONCERT

Saturday, March 14th , 4-6 pm

\$10 at the Door



SATURDAY AFTERNOON AT THE MOVIES!

Showing **PRETTY OLD**

March 21, 4-6 pm

When 30 women aged 67-84 from across America and around the world descend on Fall River, Massachusetts to compete in the 30th anniversary of the Ms. Senior Sweetheart Pageant, hilarity and heartbreak ensue. Under the doting attention of pageant founder and personality, Lenny "Low Price" Kaplan, these women share intimate experiences, discover new-found passions and stir lifelong insecurities that challenge common misconceptions of aging. Following four diverse competitors as they prepare to travel to and compete in the pageant, PRETTY OLD is a profound and intimate look into what it truly means to age beautifully.

This heartwarming documentary by area resident Walter Matteson dispels some age-old perceptions regarding beauty and self-worth after a certain age.

Your favorite movie treats will be available for purchase.

For more info: [Link to review in The Hollywood Reporter:](#)

<http://www.hollywoodreporter.com/review/pretty-old-film-review-285598>

First Quarter WORKSHOPS at the OSG



Tin Flowers Workshop

January 31, 2-4 pm

Join Melinda Aubuchon in making beautiful flowers from soda cans. The flowers can be made into votive candle holders, tree ornaments, a bouquet or.....?

Bring gloves and scissors, and if you have cans of a particular color you would like to use--bring those too. Supplies are provided. The workshop is appropriate for ages ten and up.

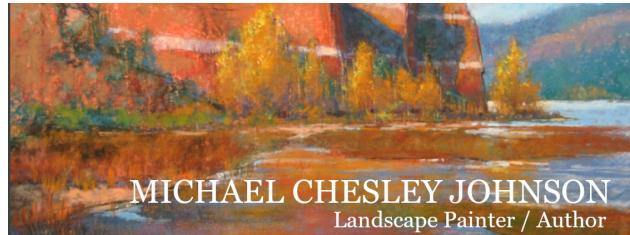
Questions or for more info contact Gail at programming@emaacnm.org.



One-day Landscape Painting Workshop (in the studio from photos---any medium)

Saturday, February 28
10-3 with a BYO Lunch Break

Led by



MICHAEL CHESLEY JOHNSON
Landscape Painter / Author

\$20 suggested donation---Bring your own supplies
EMAAC will provide coffee, water, snack.

For more information contact Michael at mcj.painter@gmail.com



project; or even a basket that you might want to spruce up. Laura will also bring some additions. Baskets and other supplies will be provided. Contact Laura for more info: laura.baum@emaacnm.org

This project is inspired by baskets covered in painted washi paper that Laura saw in Japan .

Basket Workshop

With Laura Baum

Saturday, March 7th, 2-5pm

\$15 suggested donation

Please join local artist, Laura Baum for a creative afternoon of collaging on baskets. Bring some images, small artworks, dried flowers, etc. to add to your

TO SCHEDULE CLASSES, WORKSHOPS OR EVENTS....

NOTE: All events must be pre-approved by the programming committee. Please submit ideas for April-June for scheduling and approval by February 15th, 2026 to programming@emaacnm.org.

All materials for the 2026 second quarter (Q2) Newsletter are due by March 1st. *Thank You.*

The Old School Gallery and grounds are available for use by EMAAC members. If you have an idea for a workshop, festival or other event, please contact us at programming@emaacnm.org.

The Gallery is also available to rent for personal or business events--with a discount for members!

ON-GOING GROUPS

\$2 Gallery usage fee per participant if held at the gallery



Monthly READING GROUP

Third Tuesdays at Members' Homes or The Old School Gallery

January 20: Covenant of Water by Abraham Verghese, Fiction 2023

A sweeping, multigenerational saga set in Kerala, India (1900-1977), following a Malayali Christian family cursed with deaths by drowning in every generation. The narrative intertwines their personal struggles with historical events, exploring themes of faith, family, medical progress, colonialism, and the deep connection between people and water, ultimately highlighting resilience and compassion.

Hosted by Rosalie Bianchi, 3:00 pm at the Old School Gallery

February 17: All the Beauty in the World: the Metropolitan Museum of Art and Me by Patrick Bringley, Non-fiction 2023

Bringley's memoir about leaving his job at The New Yorker after his brother's cancer death, becoming a guard at the Metropolitan Museum of Art (the Met) for a decade, and finding healing and a unique community among priceless artworks and diverse colleagues, offers readers an insider's view of the museum's hidden world and the profound connection between art, life, grief, and simple beauty.

Hosted by Laura Baum 3:00 pm at the Old School Gallery

March 17: Mad Honey: A Novel by Jodi Picoult and Jennifer Finley Boylan, Fiction 2022.

The story follows the case of 18-year-old Asher, who is charged with the murder of his girlfriend, Lily. Although initially convinced of his innocence, his mother, Olivia, is reminded of the similarities between Asher and her abusive ex-husband, Asher's father. Told from alternating perspectives, the story weaves in beekeeping lore, revealing how both mothers, Olivia and Lily's mom, fled abusive relationships confronting difficult truths about love, trust, and hidden identities. .

Host, Pam Davis-7:30pm at her home. 505-870-6245

Just 4 Fun Band

2nd & 4th Fridays 1:00 -3:00

All musicians--beginning, intermediate, and beyond-- are invited to come play with us!

We play primarily traditional and folk music, but other genres show up from time to time. Play by ear or from sheet music. We have beginner's variations of many songs.

* To confirm, contact Amy at 505-775-0140 or flipflopfarmNM@gmail.com

NEW!

Readers' Theater

January 8, February 12, March 12, 4:00 - 5, No charge

Interested in being in a play but never got the chance or were not comfortable up on stage? Maybe you used to be in plays but gave it up along the way. Come join people who enjoy the chance to read a variety of short plays out loud in a completely non-threatening environment. Let's play! No prep, just show up for some theatrical fun.

Questions? Contact Lorena Willmon at dell.willmon@gmail.com or George Dobbs at ncahootz52@gmail.com

Vinyasa Yoga

Led by Liz Carlier



10:00 - 11:00am
Fridays
January 9 & 23
February 6 & 20
March 6 & 20

*If weather is bad,
Class will be canceled.*

Please bring your own mat

Questions? LizCarlier@gmail.com.

Interested
in starting
a new class?
See page 3

The First Friday of the Month,
7:30 pm at the Belly Button Ballroom

"So You Think You Can't Dance?"
Informal Dancing and Dessert

Lessons for non-dancers,
or bring your favorite dance to teach us all.

RSVP to pamelad1946@gmail.com (or for directions or questions)
Donations to the Arts Council appreciated.

EXHIBITORS' NOTES

Pick up Q4 art & submit Q1 art Sunday, January 4th, 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Or at the latest, noon on Thursday, January 8th This Exhibit runs thru March

If you cannot meet these deadlines, please contact Pam at pamelad1946@gmail.com to make other arrangements.

First Quarter Exhibition Reception Sunday, January 11th, 2-4 pm

And in the Artists' Quarter

“Something Experimental--an EMAAC Artists' Group Show”

NOTE

Exhibition openings are in salon format and all exhibitors are encouraged to attend.

Exhibiting artists are asked to bring finger-foods to share.

The Artists' Quarter is available for individual artist's exhibits on the Old School Gallery Stage. If you would like to show your work in 2027, or if you have already contacted me about an exhibition, please confirm. Installation and take-down dates still to be determined.

Contact Pam Davis, Exhibition Chair at pamelad1946@gmail.com

VOLUNTEER CORNER



As 2025 comes to a close, we would like to take this opportunity to recognize our volunteers. Volunteers are the lifeblood of our organization, selflessly dedicating time and effort to make a difference in our community. Without these unsung heroes, numerous programs, events and initiatives would simply not be possible. Our volunteers provide invaluable support and services that range from technical support to event logistics and staffing, filing and office work (docents). In addition, volunteers provide our community with numerous cultural, artistic and educational opportunities via sharing of their diverse creative and imaginative talents.

In this quarter's volunteer spotlight, we'd like to recognize the extraordinary efforts of Robert (Bob, Bob'll, Just Bob) Schafer. Since the inception of the El Morro Area Arts Council, Bob has been an integral part of the organization. His dedication, creativity, and positive attitude have been invaluable in helping us achieve our goals. In addition to fixing leaks, keeping weeds at bay, adding electrical circuits and setting up sound equipment, Bob has led the popular Geology Adventure series, and is a talented musician and songwriter.

Please join us in extending a heartfelt thank you to Bob for his outstanding service!

EMAAC needs you! Join Us!

If you love art and people consider becoming a DOCENT.

We are open weekends 11-4

Docent days can be monthly, quarterly or on call.
Contact Lori to schedule a training at
lori.hanson@emaacnm.org

EMAAC Board is in need of new members.

**PLEASE
NOTE!**

If you are interested in joining a working board to support the arts and artists in our community, or know someone who might be interested in serving on the board or a committee contact Gail at gail.ratko@emaacnm.org to set up an interview.

Current Board Members

Laura Baum * Gary Cartier * Pam Davis
Lori Hanson * Gail Ratko * Megan Schrag-Toso

WANTED

EMAAC part-time Bookkeeper

Interested?

Contact gail.ratko@emaacnm.org

CONNECTIONS.....

Web page: www.elmorroareaarts council.org

For Art & Music Events related to OSG:

Instagram: [elmorroareaarts council](https://www.instagram.com/elmorroareaarts council/)

For EMAAC events:

facebook.com/Old School Gallery or
facebook.com/El Morro Area Arts Council
The Old School Gallery

For up-to-the-minute program changes:

facebook.com/EMAAC Information Hotline

Place Your Ad In the EMAAC Newsletter!

We publish 4 issues per year.
Prices listed are per issue.

Business Card Size: 3.5" x 2"\$25

1/4 Page: 3.5" x 4.75"\$30

1/2 Page:\$50

Each quarterly newsletter is distributed in both Cibola and McKinley Counties, sent to our membership and posted on our website: elmorroareaarts council.org

Contact: gail.ratko@emaacnm.org

COMMUNITY EVENTS

2025 Cibola/McKinley Area ART Venues & Events

El Morro Area

SCULPTURE TRAILS at The Ancient Way Café & The OSG
STAR GARDEN GALLERY by appointment art@stargardengallery.com

Gallup

ARTS CRAWL 2nd Saturdays, 7- 9 pm downtown Gallup
Vendor sign up contact deesatilanes@gmail.com.

ART 123 Gallery New shows second Saturdays
LOOM Indigenous Gallery Downtown Gallup

Grants

DOUBLE SIX GALLERY & ROUTE 66 VINTAGE MUSEUM
Tues.-Sat. 1 - 5

The El Morro Science Group

Second Saturdays 11:00am at Inscription Rock Trading Co.

Topics change month to month
Open to suggestions for monthly discussion
Call Rosalie & Jerry (505) 783-4076 for more information



Bookmobile Schedule:

Wednesdays
Jan 7, Feb. 4, Mar.11
Ancient Way Cafe 9:30 - 10:30
Pine Hill Market 11:15 -12:15
Ramah USPO 1:45 - 2:45

On Going Weekly Groups:

Yoga--Fridays 10:00 -11:00

Just 4 Fun Band-- 2nd & 4th Fridays 1:00 -3:00

January 2026

On Going Monthly Groups:

Readers' Theater-Second Thursdays 4:00

Book Discussion Group—Third Tuesdays, See page 4

So You Think You Can't Dance
First Fridays 7:30 at the Bellybutton Ballroom

Science Society—Second Saturdays 11:00 at IRT

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 Thunder Ridge 6:30
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 Q1 Art Opening 2:00-4:00	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 Tin Flowers Workshop 2:00-4:00

On Going Weekly Groups:

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 Open Mic 7:00-9:00
8 International Woman's Day Tea 2:00-4:00	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Landscape painting workshop 10:00-3:00

On Going Weekly Groups:

Yoga--Fridays 10:00 -11:00

Just 4 Fun band-- 2nd & 4th Fridays 1:00 -3:00

March

2026

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 Basket Workshop 2:00-5:00
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Dusty Anvil 4:00-6:00
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 "Pretty Old" Film 4:00-6:00
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Please support our local businesses!

A big Thank You to
The Grants' Walmart
 for their generous support!

The Ancient Way Café

Now Open with a Full Menu
 Fri. 5pm - 8pm, Sat. & Sun. 9am - 6pm 505-783-4612
 The RV Park and Cabins are open
 Reservations may be made at www.elmorro-nm.com
 or email elmorrorv@gmail.com

OSO INTERNET SOLUTIONS

*"Connecting our Community
 to the World"*

Phone (505) 600-3326
 Web www.osointernetsolutions.com
 Email magaret@osointernetsolutions.com

**EMAAC thanks you for your
 continued support!**

EMAAC Membership Form*

The El Morro Area Arts Council (EMAAC) is a vibrant organization that celebrates diversity, thrives on the sharing of creative ideas through programs, exhibitions and workshops. EMAAC supports The Old School Gallery, a community-centered activity hub for traditional and contemporary arts. The Gallery is open Saturday & Sunday 11-4. Call 505-783-4710

EMAAC membership is open to all individuals who share a love of the arts and/or the Ramah/El Morro community.
 Please Join Us!

Name #1 _____ Email Address _____ Phone _____

Name #2 _____ Email Address _____ Phone _____

Name #3 _____ Email Address _____ Phone _____

US Postal Service Mailing Address:

_____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Membership Level: Individual (\$25) Couple (\$45) Family (3 or more at one address) \$60)

EMAAC Sponsor \$_____ (\$50 or more) Interested in Volunteering? Y N

Mail this form with your comments or suggestions to: EMAAC, PO Box 296, Ramah, NM 87321. Or join online at elmorroareaartscouncil.org

*Membership includes a quarterly newsletter, reduced facility rental fee, occasional reduced event rates, and supports a vibrant community of artists and visiting talent.

*The EMAAC Newsletter is published quarterly by the El Morro Area Arts Council.
 This project is supported in part by New Mexico Arts, a division of the Department of Cultural Affairs*